



Commonwealth of Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet

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Open Fire and Fireworks Banned on Pennyryle State Forest *Forestry officials to patrol area for violators*

FRANKFORT, Ky. (June 29, 2012) – Due to increasing drought levels and extremely warm temperatures, an open fire and fireworks ban is in place for Pennyryle State Forest until further notice. The state-owned property – located in Caldwell and Christian counties – will be patrolled by Kentucky Division of Forestry (KDF) personnel. Violators are subject to fines and potential wildfire liability.

“The ban not only includes campfires, charcoal grills, candles and open-flame torches, it also prohibits the discharge and use of any kind of firework or other pyrotechnic device,” said Leah MacSwords, director of KDF. “We want people to enjoy the forest, but the wildfire danger is too high to be taking chances with open fire in backcountry camping areas.”

Any individual caught violating the campfire or fireworks ban on Pennyryle State Forest will be issued a fine up to \$500. Individuals or groups responsible for causing a wildfire may also be held liable for suppression costs.

For more formation about outdoor burning restrictions and how you can prevent wildfires, contact the Kentucky Division of Forestry at 1-800-435-0555 or visit the division’s website at <http://forestry.ky.gov/Pages/default.aspx>.

Editor’s note: These restrictions do not apply to the Pennyryle State Resort Park campground adjacent to the state forest property. Visitors should contact park officials at 1-800-325-1711 for more information about campfire restrictions in the state park recreation areas.

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